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Message Text

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13
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

INR-10 PA-04 PRS-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /073 W
---------- 116254
O 290445Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2246
INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC IMMEDIATE
CINCPACREP AUSTRALIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 6975

E.O. 11652
TAGS: MARR, US, AS, NZ
SUBJ: ANZUS COUNCIL- MILITARY REPRESENTATION

REF: CNB 6974

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL, EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT ADMIRAL SIR VICTOR SMITH (CHAIRMAN AUSTRALIAN CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE) HAS CONVEYED TO ADMIRAL GAYLOR HIS CONCERN OVER POSSIBLILITY NZ PRIME MINISTER KIRK WILL
PROPOSE TO PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM THAT MILITARY AND DEFENSE REPRESENTA-

TIVES NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANZUS COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WELLINGTON IN FEBRUARY.

2. SITUATION APPEARS TO BE THAT AUSTRALIAN PROFESSIONALS (BOTH CIVILIAN

AND MILITARY) ARE CONCERNED THAT PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM WILL AGREE WITH

FELLOW LABOR PRIME MINE MINISTER KIRK'S PROPOSAL. THESE PROFESSIONALS HOPE WE WILL TAKE INITIATIVE TO HAD OFF PROPOSAL BY MAKING OUR CONCERNS

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KNOWN SOONEST. THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO MAKE ANY PROPOSALS DIRECTLY

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THROUGH THEIR OWN CHANNELS.

3. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MOVE QUICKLY TO LET BOTH GNZ AND GOA KNOW THAT USG EXPECTS CINCPAC AND OTHER U.S. MILITARY AND DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND FOR THE COMING COUNCIL MEETING AS USUAL. SUGGEST THIS CAN BEST BE DONE INFORMALLY THROUGH AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON. TO BE EFFECTIVE APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING IS THAT KIRK'S PROPOSAL NOT EXPECTED TO BE RAISED WITH WHITLAM UNTIL FIRST FEW DAYS OF NEW YEAR BUT IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE IN OUR INTEREST IF PROPOSAL COULD BE AT LEAST BLUNTED BY EXPRESSION OF USG CONCERN BEFORE IT IS RAISED WITH WHITLAM.
HARROP

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 29 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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